



## OUTREACH

# *Shuttle Team Online Project Launched*

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Space Center***

The NASA Learning Technologies Project (LTP), a NASA-wide Kindergarten Through Grade 12 initiative, recently launched a new project called "Shuttle Team Online." The project will be publicly available in an interactive mode from March through May of 1997. Shuttle Team Online is designed principally for pre-college classrooms, but everybody is welcome and many adults should find the unique perspective interesting.

### ***About the project***

Shuttle Team Online allows you to join the men and women who make the space shuttle fly and learn about their diverse and exciting careers. You'll peek behind the scenes as these folks train astronauts, prepare the shuttle between missions, launch the shuttle, successfully execute the mission from Mission Control, and safely land the shuttle. The focus will be on STS-83, a 16-day microgravity science lab scheduled for launch April 3, 1997.

This project provides lots of opportunities to interact with these enthusiastic people through e-mail exchange and live network events, including WebChats and CU-SeeMe sessions. Curriculum

supplements about flying rockets and microgravity experiments are available to help teachers incorporate the lessons of the shuttle into their classrooms. Also, Shuttle Team Online hosts teacher discussion areas to encourage like-minded educators to share good ideas and support one another. Student-to-student interactions are facilitated through space shuttle simulations, as well. Another area on the web is reserved to display student work relating to the shuttle.

### ***Johnson Space Center volunteers***

Shuttle team employees at Johnson Space Center (JSC) will be volunteering to write brief biographies and "field journals" describing their day-to-day activities and will answer filtered email question from students. A limited number of volunteers will be involved in the live network events. After the project ends, the question and answer archive will remain available indefinitely.

"Shuttle Team Online is an Internet-based educational outreach program that will share real life experiences of the 'behind-the-scenes' space shuttle team with students and teachers around

the world,” said Chris Culbert, manager of the Information Technology Office at JSC. “The goal is to demonstrate to students the variety of skills and educational backgrounds required to make the Shuttle program successful.”

According to Culbert, although the JSC portion of the project will target students in grades 4-12, it will certainly be of interest to a much broader group. “Shuttle Team Online will ultimately be a general outreach program to the global community interested in NASA’s space program,” Culbert said. “We’re very excited to bring this NASA project to schools in the US and around the world. We also look forward to working with employees, the people who make it happen.”

### ***How to join***

The Shuttle Team Online project is FREE, open to you, and available now. Even if you are not a teacher, perhaps you’ll get some ideas on how you might do similar education outreach in your own scientific pursuits. Shuttle Team Online should prove to be an exciting learning resource and a great ride.

Shuttle Team Online is part of Sharing NASA, a family of online education projects, such as “Live from Antarctica,” and “Online from Jupiter.”

For further information about Sharing NASA access:

<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/interactive/>

If you are interested in Shuttle Team Online, send an email to:

[listmanager@quest.arc.nasa.gov](mailto:listmanager@quest.arc.nasa.gov)

state ” subscribe updates-sto” (no quotes) in the body of the message. Also, visit the web site at:

<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/shuttle>

For further information about the JSC volunteers contact Frances Harris at:

[fharris@pt1.jsc.nasa.gov](mailto:fharris@pt1.jsc.nasa.gov)